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EDITION

# SPAWN®

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S. KUDRANSKI



THE FUTURE OF COMICS  
25  
Image  
EST. 1992

# SPAWN®

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TODD McFARLANE  
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SPAWN CREATED BY  
TODD McFARLANE



## PREVIOUSLY IN SPAWN

The S.W.A.T team knocks down the door and Al uses his powers to distract them as he and Cyan escape. Outside, Cyan cloaks Al using her powers and the S.W.A.T. team leaves to look for them elsewhere. Once they're out of danger, Al enlists Earl's help to find Terry and when he locates him, Spawn goes to visit the man holding Terry hostage. Spawn scares him by threatening his children and to keep them safe, Terry's captor makes a call to have him released. To ensure the man never bothers anyone again, Spawn beats him bloody. Elsewhere, The Soul Crusher visits the home of Mr. Matlin and sends a deadly message to him by gassing Matlin's son and dog.

SO,  
NOW IT'S  
COME TO  
THIS?

IT'S NOT GOOD  
ENOUGH FOR A CROOK  
TO COME IN AND STEAL  
OR BEAT THEIR VICTIMS.  
THEY NEED TO POISON  
THEM WHILE THEY'RE AT IT.  
I SWEAR THE INTERNET IS  
GIVING THESE PSYCHOS  
OUT THERE WAY TOO  
MANY IDEAS.

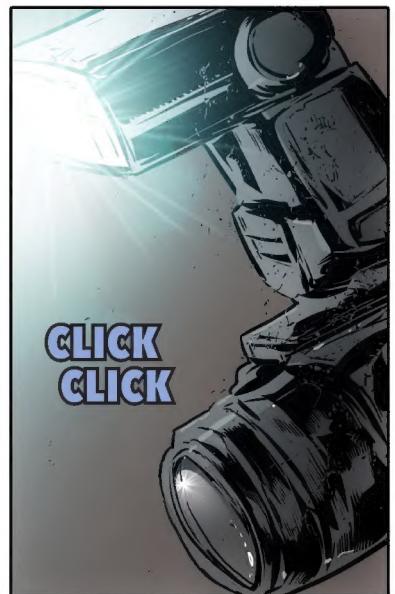
DO WE  
KNOW WHAT  
KILLED HIM,  
YET?

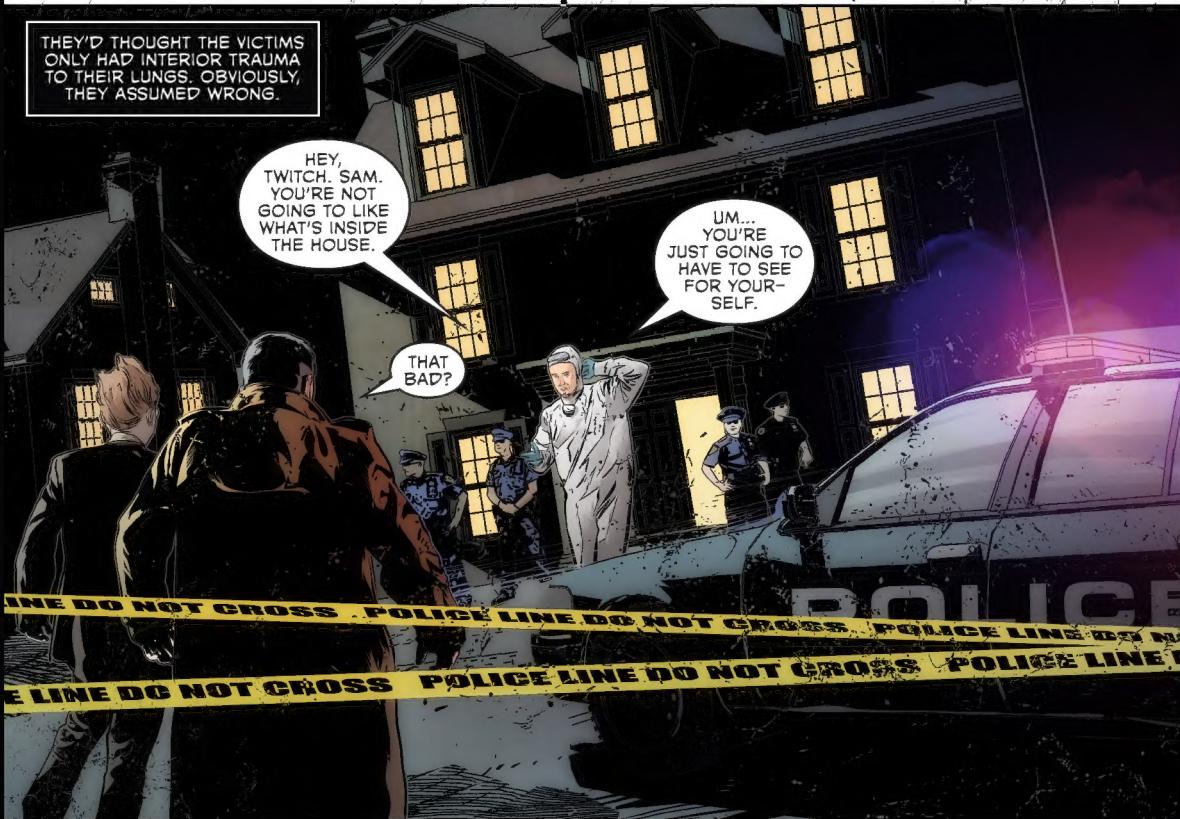
SOME TYPE  
OF GAS. WE'VE SENT  
A SAMPLE OUT TO THE LAB  
ALREADY. BUT AS FAR AS  
WE CAN TELL, THERE'S NO  
OTHER MARKS ON HIM. NO  
SIGNS OF A STRUGGLE  
OR A FIGHT.

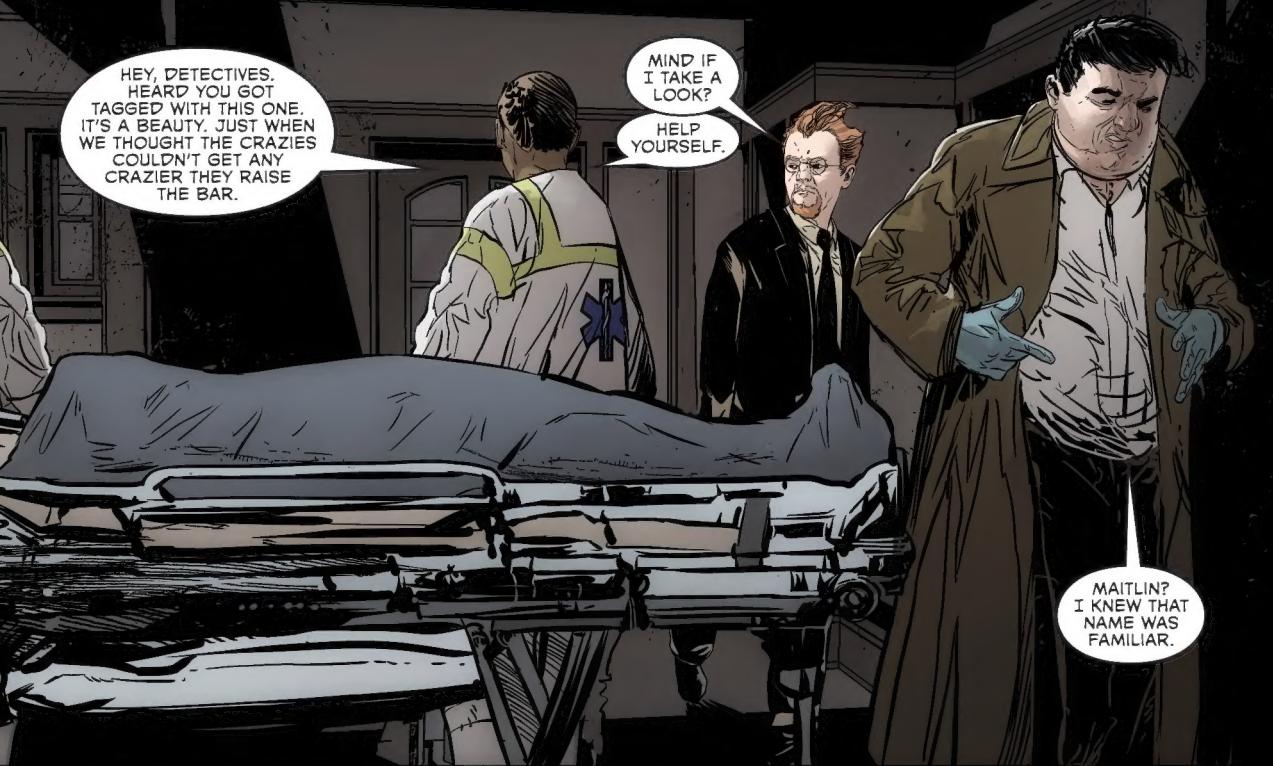
WHAT  
DO YOU  
MAKE OF THE  
MASK?

CLICK

SOME KIND  
OF TOKEN TO LET  
US ALL KNOW HOW  
SPECIAL THE KILLER IS.  
THE REAL SADISTIC  
ONES GET A KICK OUT  
OF LEAVING VISUAL  
HINTS BEHIND.







YOU  
MISS HER  
TOO, DON'T  
YOU?

YOUR  
MOM?

YEAH. SHE  
DIDN'T TALK  
TO ME MUCH  
ABOUT WHEN  
YOU GUYS WERE  
MARRIED.

BUT I COULD  
TELL SHE HAD SOME  
KIND OF SPECIAL BOND  
WITH YOU. I THINK SHE  
MOSTLY TRIED TO HIDE  
IT FROM MY DAD.

I  
WISH...

...THAT  
SHE WAS  
STILL HERE.  
DON'T  
YOU?

EVERY  
DAY.

SO WHAT  
DO WE DO  
NOW?



I DON'T KNOW WHERE MY DAD IS.

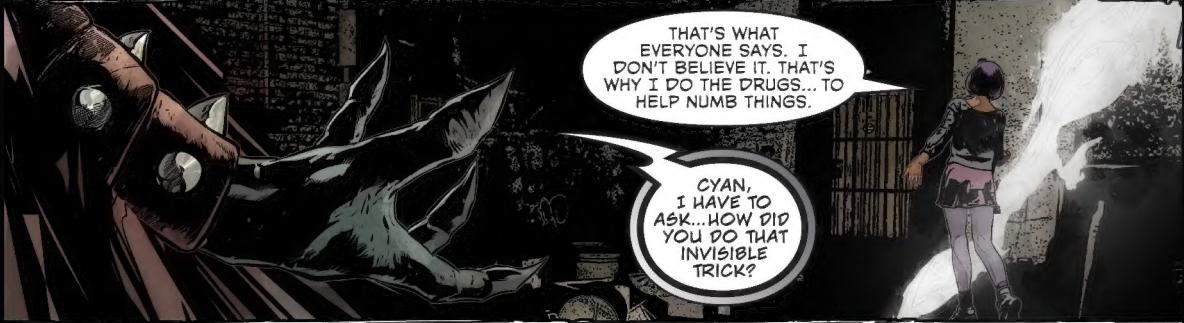
I'M WORKING ON THAT.



I KNOW WHAT YOU MUST THINK OF ME. ABOUT HOW STUPID I'VE BEEN TAKING DRUGS AND STUFF, BUT WANDA WASN'T JUST YOUR WIFE. SHE WAS MY MOM TOO. AND I HATED MYSELF FOR ARGUING WITH HER ALL THE TIME AND NOW THAT SHE'S GONE, ALL I THINK OF IS THE TIME I WASTED NOT WANTING TO BE AROUND HER.

MAYBE THAT'S WHY SHE ISN'T HERE. SHE WAS MAD AT ME, AND IT MADE HER CRASH.

YOU'RE NOT TO BLAME FOR HER DEATH.



THAT'S WHAT EVERYONE SAYS. I DON'T BELIEVE IT. THAT'S WHY I DO THE DRUGS... TO HELP NUMB THINGS.

CYAN, I HAVE TO ASK... HOW DID YOU DO THAT INVISIBLE TRICK?



I DON'T KNOW. IT JUST HAPPENS. MOST TIMES I DON'T EVEN REMEMBER DOING ANYTHING.

HOW LONG'S THAT BEEN GOING ON?

A WHILE. SOMETIMES IT'S JUST WEIRD STUFF. LIKE THIS.



IT'S LIKE  
YOUR COSTUME  
IS AFRAID. BUT  
WHY? I'M NOT  
TRYING TO...

SOMEONE'S  
COMING!



DAD?!



WHERE  
HAVE YOU BEEN?  
I DIDN'T KNOW  
WHERE YOU  
WERE. NONE OF  
US DID.

I KNOW.  
I'M  
SORRY,  
BABY.





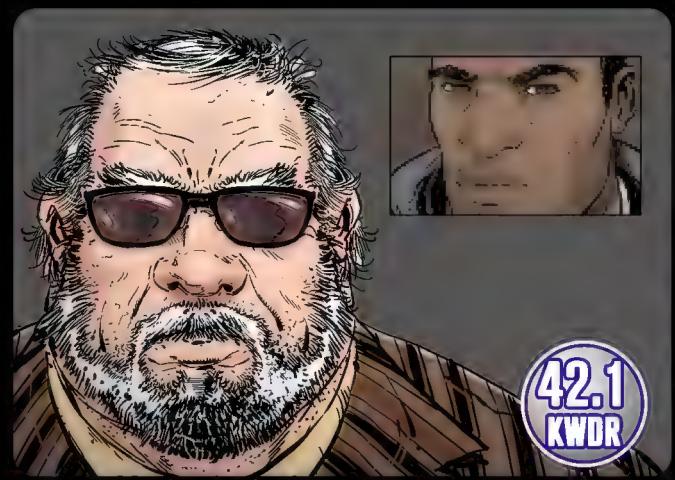
LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND STATE OFFICIALS ARE STILL UNSURE OF EXACTLY HOW THE YOUNG GIRL RETURNED. IT HAD BEEN JUST OVER TWO DAYS SINCE SHE VANISHED FROM AN ADOLESCENT CARE FACILITY. AS WE'VE BEEN REPORTING, SHE WAS IN THE COMPANY OF A FAMILY FRIEND WHEN IT HAPPENED.

THE GIRL'S FATHER TOLD THE POLICE HE DOESN'T KNOW WHERE HIS FRIEND IS. INSIDERS SAY THAT A "MANHUNT" HAS BEGUN TO FIND THIS MYSTERIOUS MAN WHO WAS CAUGHT ON ONE OF THE HOSPITAL CAMERAS. UNFORTUNATELY, THE QUALITY OF THE IMAGE IS POOR, SO IF ANYONE OUT THERE HAS ANY INFORMATION...



...PLEASE CALL THE POLICE. WE HAVE A HOTLINE NUMBER THAT HAS BEEN SET UP TO FIELD ANY PERTINENT INFORMATION THAT MIGHT LEAD TO THE WHEREABOUTS OF THIS MAN. POLICE ARE BEING CAREFUL NOT TO SAY HE WAS INVOLVED IN ANY WAY WITH WHAT HAPPENED. THEY ARE MERELY LOOKING TO QUESTION THIS INDIVIDUAL. FOR NOW, THEY DON'T KNOW IF THIS MAN WAS PART OF A CRIME OR WAS HE ABDUCTED UNWILLYINGLY.

THE YOUNG GIRL TOLD POLICE SHE DOESN'T REMEMBER HOW SHE GOT OUT OF THE ROOM SHE WAS STAYING IN OR WHERE THIS MR. SMITH HAS GONE TO. DOCTORS ARE SAYING THIS TYPE OF MEMORY LOSS IS TYPICAL IN PEOPLE WHO HAVE HAD BOUTS WITH DEPRESSION OR DRUGS. LUCKILY, WE CAN REPORT THAT THE YOUNG LADY IS HEALTHY AND UNHARMED PHYSICALLY.



IS IT ME? OR DOES **ALL THIS** STINK TO HIGH HEAVEN? THE HOSPITAL **DOESN'T KNOW** ANYTHING. THE FATHER **CAN'T REMEMBER** WHY HIS FRIEND WAS THERE VISITING HIS DAUGHTER AND THE DAUGHTER HERSELF SAYS SHE CAN'T RECALL ANY DETAILS!

**WOW!** AT LEAST A FEW PEOPLE WHO SUPPORTED OUR PRESIDENT'S CALL FOR MORE "**LAW AND ORDER**" HAVE SUPPOSEDLY ASSEMBLED A TEAM TO HUNT THIS MAN IN THE BLURRY PHOTO AND BRING HIM TO JUSTICE BEFORE HE TRIES TO MOLEST ANY OTHER INNOCENT, GOD-FEARING CHILDREN OUT THERE.

BUT... I HAVE A **BETTER** SOLUTION. INSTEAD OF CALLING THE POLICE, GET A FEW OF YOUR HUSBAND'S TO CIRCLE THE GUY AND MAKE HIM WISH HE NEVER MESSED WITH A CHILD EVER AGAIN. HELL, CALL ME FIRST. I'LL COME HELP YOU!



DEEP IN THE BOWELS OF SOME OLD NEW YORK SEWER SYSTEMS, IS A LABYRINTH OF TUNNELS THAT MOST EVERYONE BELIEVES HAVE LONG AGO OUTLIVED THEIR PURPOSE. BUT FOR A FEW THIS MAZE IS A TREASURE. A PLACE TO ALLOW SOMEONE TO GO UNDETECTED.



A PLACE WHERE A PERSON CAN WILLINGLY DISAPPEAR.



THEN BE REBORN IN ITS SHADOWS.





I ASSUME  
YOUR LATEST  
CRUSADE WAS  
A SUCCESS.

YES.  
I'M SURE  
MR. MAITLIN'S  
PARTNERS  
WILL BE  
COOPERATIVE  
NOW. \*

\*See the last few  
issues-- Todd



BUT FOR  
TONIGHT MY  
"SOUL  
CRUSHER"  
PERSONA IS  
RETIRED.



ANY  
ESTIMATE  
AS TO WHEN  
HE'LL BE  
BACK?

I'M SORTING  
THROUGH A FEW  
POSSIBILITIES. BUT AS  
YOU KNOW THIS WORLD  
IS FILLED WITH SO MANY  
INJUSTICES, IT'S  
DAUNTING TRYING  
TO DECIDE WHICH OF  
THE MEEK NEED MY  
PROTECTION.

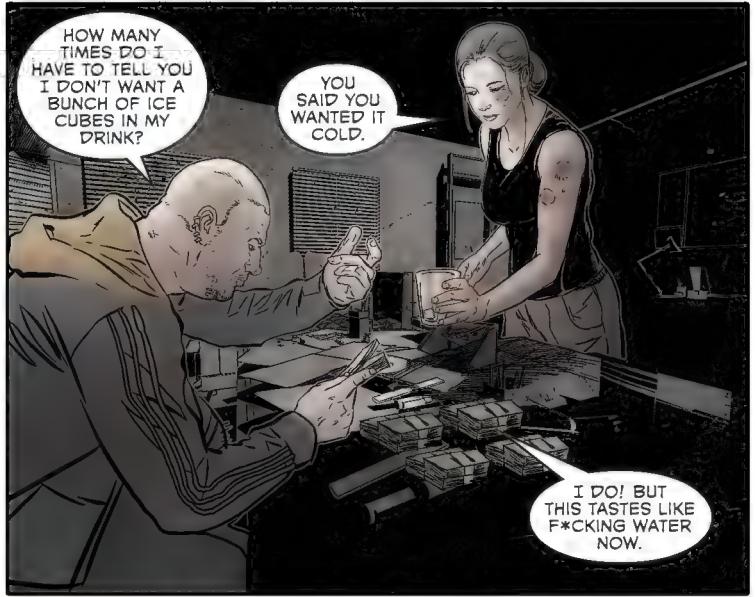














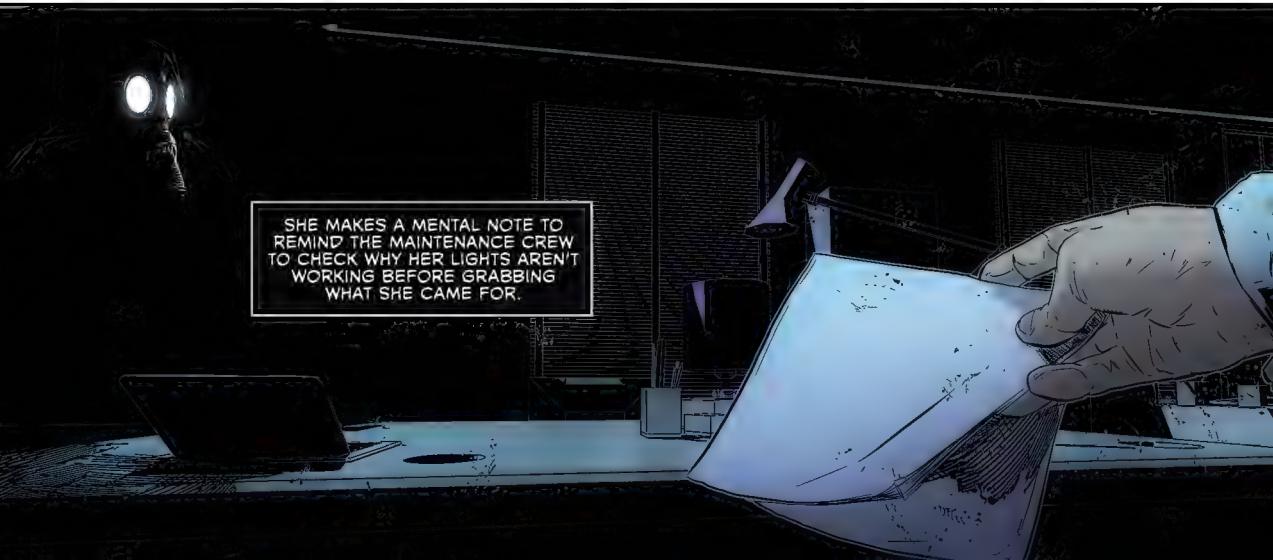


AT THE INSTITUTION WHERE CYAN WAS BEING TREATED BEFORE HER INEXPLICABLE DISAPPEARANCE A FEW DAYS AGO, THE STAFF IS TRYING TO GET BACK INTO A NORMAL ROUTINE. THE PAST 48 HOURS THEY HAVE ALL HAD TO DEAL WITH POLICE AND FEDERAL AGENTS.

BUT WITH THE GOOD NEWS THAT CYAN FITZGERALD HAS BEEN FOUND AND IS BACK WITH HER FATHER, THE DOCTORS AND NURSES HERE CAN TURN THEIR FOCUS TO THEIR OTHER PATIENTS.



SHE MAKES A MENTAL NOTE TO REMIND THE MAINTENANCE CREW TO CHECK WHY HER LIGHTS AREN'T WORKING BEFORE GRABBING WHAT SHE CAME FOR.





THE GIRL FROM  
THE NEWS. THE ONE  
THAT WAS KIDNAPPED. I  
NEED TO KNOW EVERY-  
THING ABOUT HER.

I THINK SHE  
MAY BE IN  
**DANGER!**

**TO BE CONTINUED**

# SPAWN GROUND

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## MONTHLY CONTEST

WIN a 10 minute Skype call with Todd McFarlane and some COOL McFarlane toys and comics!

Each month readers will be giving a secret code word available ONLY in Spawning Ground.

Enter that code word **HERE**:  
**[mcfarlane.com/spawningground](http://mcfarlane.com/spawningground)**  
for your chance to win awesome prizes!

Spawn 273 Code Word: **REDCAPESRULE**

Winners will be notified by email two weeks after the release of the comic.

Good Luck!

Thank you all for being loyal fans of Spawn!

Shannon Bailey  
Publishing Coordinator



### NEXT ISSUE

The Soul Crusher continues his reign of terror, but Sam and Twitch are on the case. They vow to bring him down.

ONE WOMAN  
CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE



MATT HAWKINS • ATILIO ROJO

# SAMARITAN

VERITAS

#1

May 24, 2017



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CREATIVE TEAM BRIAN AZZARELLO AND EDUARDO RISSO REUNITE FOR

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*"More addictive than forbidden booze."*

*-Fabio Moon*



*"Beautiful and one of the most expertly crafted first issues I have ever read... damn near perfect. Five out of five."*

*-Nerdist*

*"As darkly beautiful and engrossing as you'd expect from Azarello & Risso...with a kick as strong as the best corn liquor."*

*-Jason Aaron*

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